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SOVIET LEADERSHIP CHANGES

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NSC Declassification/Release Instructions on File

I. The Soviet leadership has undergone the most extensive personnel shift since the defeat of the Malenkov-Molotov "anti-party" group in 1957. The fact that these moves were made on the very eve of the Paris Conference, when it might be expected that domestic problems would be put aside, suggests that Khrushchev was prompted to move with some dispatch; at the same time, the evidence indicates that the changes were made at

Khrushchev's direction. *Khrushchev has devoted the greater part of his time since his trip to the US in September to travel and foreign affairs which may have permitted some of his lieutenants too much leeway.*

II. The net result is that the Khrushchev-Mikoyan-Kozlov team is still prominently in the forefront. In addition, the first major move has been made to strengthen Kozlov as Khrushchev's successor. Khrushchev and Mikoyan told Averill Harriman last year that Kozlov had been picked to take over eventually. Kozlov has finally been moved into the party secretariat and has relinquished his job as a first deputy premier. There has been speculation for some time that such a move would be necessary if he were to gain control over the hard core of party professionals.

*Khrushchev has reduced the secretariat to a tight <sup>Six</sup> man group, resembling*

III. Four old members of the party secretariat have been transferred out, but remain on the party presidium. With the

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- 2 -

obvious exception of Khrushchev, Suslov appears to be the only remaining party secretary who might have a semblance of independent voice.

IV. The other significant changes are these: three presidium candidates--Aleksy Kosygin, Nikolay Podgorny and Dmitry Polyansky--were promoted to full member of the presidium. Kosygin and Polyansky particularly have been mentioned frequently as rising stars on Khrushchev's team.

A. The central committee also fired Aleksy Kirichenko and Nikolay Belyayev from the presidium thus formalizing their demotion earlier this year when there were assigned to remot provincial posts.

V. The announcement of these changes indicated that the central committee had discussed matters pertaining to the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) session which convenes today.

A. Soviet officials from all over the USSR and abroad converged on Moscow earlier this week.

B. Several Soviet ambassadors (Iran, Hungary, France and Britain) have already departed their posts for Moscow and

Ambassador Menshikov has been ordered home.

VI. Khrushchev has told a group of foreign ambassadors that he will make a major speech to the Supreme Soviet.

A. He also stated that he had recently become pessimistic over prospects for the summit meeting which suggests that

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- 3 -

he will use his Supreme Soviet speech on 5 May to renew criticisms of Western statements portraying the summit as a test of Soviet good faith.

B. This line may also be designed to warn the Communist world against exaggerated expectations regarding the outcome of the Paris meeting, which he has been careful to describe as the first of a series of heads of government meetings.

C. There has been talk in Moscow that the Supreme Soviet might amend the Soviet constitution and create the office of President of the USSR--obviously for Khrushchev. Khrushchev told the foreign diplomats that the central committee would consider "constitutional questions"; any decisions the committee approved would have to be formalized by the Supreme Soviet.

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PRESIDIUM

5 May 1960

1.	Khrushchev	(66)	1st Secretary; Chmn RSFSR Bureau; Premier
2.	Aristov	(56)	Deputy Chairman Bureau for RSFSR
3.	Brezhnev	(53)	Secretary
4.	Furtseva	(49)	Minister of Culture
5.	Ignatov	(59)	Deputy Premier
6.	Kosygin	(56)	First Deputy Premier
7.	Kozlov	(51)	Secretary
8.	Kuusinen	(78)	Secretary
9.	Mikoyan	(65)	First Deputy Premier
10.	Mukhitdinov	(42)	Secretary
11.	Podgorny	(57)	1st Secretary, Ukraine
12.	Polyansky	(43)	RSFSR Premier
13.	Shvernik	(72)	Chmn Party Control Com
14.	Suslov	(57)	Secretary
15.	Voroshilov	(79)	Chmn Presidium Sup Sov

  

1.	Kalnberzin	(66)	Chmn Presidium Sup Sov, Latvia
2.	Kirilenko	(53)	1st Secretary Sverdlovsk
3.	Korotchenko	(65)	Chmn Presidium Sup Sov, Ukraine
4.	Mazurov	(46)	1st Secretary, Belorussia
5.	Mzhavanadze	(57)	1st Secretary, Georgia
6.	Pervukhin	(55)	Ambassador to the GDR
7.	Pospelov	(61)	Mbr Bureau for the RSFSR

~~FR~~OL KOZLOV - Relinquished post as first deputy premier and made member of party Secretariat.

ALEXEY KOSYGIN - NIKOLAY PODGORNYY and DMITRY POLYANSKY, formerly candidate members of the party presidium, made full members of the presidium.

AVERKY ARISTOV and PETR POSPELOV relieved from party Secretariat "with a view of concentrating their attention to work in the Central Committee Bureau for the RSFSR." Aristov remains a member of party presidium; Pospelov a candidate member.

NIKOLAI IGNATOV dropped as a party secretary; appointed deputy premier. He retains post as full member party presidium.

EKATERINA FURTSEVA relieved as party secretary but retains Presidium membership; made Minister of Culture in place of Mikhailov.

NIKOLAI BELYAEV and ALEXEI KIRICHENKO formally relieved as members of party presidium; Kirichenko also formally relieved as member of secretariat.

ALEXEI KOSYGIN appointed first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers (replacing Kozlov) and relieved as chairman of Gosplan.

VLADIMIR NOVIKOV, formerly RSFSR Gosplan chief, appointed Chairman RSFSR Gosplan.